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News Release

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Wireless Remains Most Common Internet Access Method for Michigan Farms

Seventy percent of Michigan farms have internet access, up 3 percentage points from 2013. Slightly over one-third of farms going online reported wireless as their primary access method, unchanged from two years ago. Access by satellite is the only internet access method to increase among farms from two years ago. Cable internet and dialup usage remained unchanged, while usage of DSL (Digital Subscriber Line) decreased.

Nationally, 70 percent report having access to the Internet, up 3 percentage points from 2013. A DSL connection is the most common method of accessing the Internet, with 30 percent of the farms in the United States using it, down from 35 percent in 2013. A wireless connection, at 29 percent, and a satellite connection at 21 percent, increased 5 and 4 percentage points, respectively. Other reported methods of accessing the Internet include cable modem service (12 percent), dial-up service (3 percent), and other or unknown (5 percent).

Farm Computer Usage and Primary Method of Internet Access – Michigan and United States: 2011, 2013, and 2015

	Michigan			United States		
	2011	2013	2015	2011	2013	2015
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Farms with computer access	73	71	71	65	70	73
Farms that own or lease computers	63	69	69	63	68	71
Farms using computers for farm business	38	43	43	37	40	43
Farms with internet access	62	67	70	62	67	70
Access by dialup	24	7	7	12	5	3
Access by DSL	26	24	21	38	35	30
Access by cable	13	17	17	11	13	12
Access by satellite	8	7	17	15	17	21
Access by wireless	25	34	34	20	24	29
Other/unknown access	4	11	4	4	6	5